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TEL. 1-10-10
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8 FEB 1956
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MOLD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



To the Chairman and Members of the
Mold Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report on the health of the Urban District of Mold for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

From Table I it will be seen that the number of live-births was 99 compared with 108 in 1954, giving a slight fall in the birth-rate.

Table II shows that there was 1 still-birth, compared with 3 in 1954. In Table III, it is shown that there was a rise in the total number of deaths from 68 in 1954 to 76 in 1955, giving a crude death-rate of 11.53 per 1,000. Table IV gives an analysis of the causes of death. Of the 76 deaths, diseases of the heart and circulatory system accounted for 39, and cancer for 13. In a population which has an ever increasing number of old people, those figures must be expected to show an increase, as these complaints are found mainly in the elderly. It is pleasing to record once more that there were no deaths associated with pregnancy and childbirth. There were 6 deaths from infectious diseases—5 pneumonia and 1 influenza.

There were 3 deaths of infants under one year, compared with 2 in 1954, and 1 still-birth compared with 3.

The water supply to the town caused anxiety during the summer drought. Supplies were adequate, but it was necessary to cut supplies at night, as in previous years. Samples have shown that the water is of satisfactory quality.

Concerning housing conditions, the list of applicants is still large, but a revision has shown that the demand for Council Houses is not as urgent as it was. During the year, many very deserving cases were re-housed. There is no doubt that the unavoidably high rents of new houses may cause prospective applicants to reconsider their position.

A Housing Survey was done during the year, and a slum clearance programme, dealing with 76 houses over 5 years, was approved.

Difficulty continued in acquiring land for building purposes. With an area of only 1,160 acres, most of it built upon, and much of the remainder rendered sterile by mining and other industries, Mold is approaching the point when it will be necessary to build houses outside the boundaries of the district. Redevelopment of cleared sites may have to be tried, though the cost is heavy.

During the year there were 40 cases of notifiable disease (excluding Tuberculosis), the majority being Measles. Concerning Tuberculosis, there were 7 cases compared with 8 in 1954, and there were no deaths from this complaint.

A glance through this Report will show that health conditions in the District were satisfactory throughout the year. It will show also that there was a vast amount of day to day routine work done. With the ever-increasing amount of new legislation which affects local authorities, this work will greatly increase, particularly relating to housing and slum clearance.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Council as a whole, and your officers, for the assistance which has been so readily given to me throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. J. FRASER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

There has been no change in the area under this heading during the year under review.

Area in acres—1160 statutory acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate):—

Mid-year 1953—6560.

Mid-year 1954—6600.

Mid-year 1955—6590.

Number of inhabited houses—1973.

Rateable value—£41,890.

Product of a penny rate—£166/0/8.

Vital Statistics—These are given in tabular form. For purposes of comparison, figures for last year are given, and, where appropriate, the rates for England and Wales as a whole.

TABLE I. **Births.**

Live Births.

		Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate	...	53	...	42	...	95
Illegitimate	...	4	...	—	...	4
		—		—		—
Total	...	57		42		99
		—		—		—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1954—16.36.

1955—15.02.

England and Wales : Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1954—15.2.

1955—15.0.

These figures show a slight fall in the local birth rate. There were 99 live births, compared with 108 in 1954.

The Registrar General's "Comparability Factor" being 1.02, the "corrected" birth rate is 15.20 per 1,000 population.

TABLE II. **Still Births.**

		Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate	...	1	...	—	...	1
Illegitimate	...	—	...	—	...	—
		—		—		—
Total	...	1		—		1
		—		—		—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births :—

1954—27.02.

1955—10.00.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1954—0.45.

1955—0.15.

England and Wales : Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births :—

1954—24.0.

1955—23.1.

There was 1 still birth in 1955, compared with 3 in 1954.

TABLE III. Death (General) Rate :—

All ages (all causes)—Males 38, Females 38, Total 76, compared with 68 in 1954.

Death Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1953—10.06.

1954—10.30.

1955—11.53.

England and Wales : Death Rate per 1,000 Population :—

1953—11.4.

1954—11.3.

1955—11.7.

There has been a rise in the crude death rate for the Mold Urban District. The rate for England and Wales also shows a slight rise. The rate for Mold is lower than that for England and Wales as a whole.

TABLE IV. Deaths (General) Analysis.

							Rate per 1000
Causes.			M.	F.	Total.	Population.	
Cancer of stomach	...	...	1	2	3	...	0.45
Cancer of lung, bronchus	...	...	2	—	2	...	0.30
Cancer of breast	...	...	—	2	2	...	0.30
Cancer of other organs	...	...	3	3	6	...	0.91
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	6	12	18	...	2.73
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	7	4	11	...	1.66
Hypertension with heart disease	...	—	—	3	3	...	0.45

Causes.		M.	F.	Total.	Rate per 1000 Population.	
Other heart disease	... ..	2	5	7	...	1.06
Bronchitis	... ..	3	1	4	...	0.60
Influenza	... ..	1	—	1	...	0.15
Pneumonia	... ..	2	3	5	...	0.75
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	... ..	3	—	3	...	0.45
Congenital malformations	... ..	2	—	2	...	0.30
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	2	2	4	...	0.60
Motor vehicle accidents	... ..	1	—	1	...	0.15
All other accidents	... ..	2	1	3	...	0.45
Nephritis and nephrosis	... ..	1	—	1	...	0.15
Total		38	38	76		

From this table it is seen that the leading causes of death were again circulatory diseases with 39 deaths, and cancer in one form or another with 13 deaths. There were no deaths from tuberculosis.

Deaths from pneumonia numbered five; one death was due to influenza and four were due to accidents.

TABLE V. Deaths (Childbirth)—Nil.

It is pleasing to record that once again there were no deaths attributable to pregnancy or childbirth.

TABLE VI. Death Rate (Infantile)—that is, infants under one year old :—

		Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate	... ..	2	...	1	...	3
Illegitimate	... ..	—	...	—	...	—
Total	... ..	2		1		3

Infantile Death Rate of Legitimate babies per 1,000

Legitimate Births :—

1954—19.41.

1955—31.57.

**Infantile Death Rate of Illegitimate babies per 1,000
Illegitimate Births :—**

1954—Nil.

1955—Nil.

**Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Legitimate
and Illegitimate) :—**

1953—49.58.

1954—18.51.

1955—30.30.

**England and Wales : Infantile Death Rate per 1,000
Live Births :—**

1953—26.8.

1954—25.5.

1955—24.9.

There were 3 deaths of infants under 1 year old, compared with 2 in 1954. Two were less than a month old.

SECTION B.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.**

Officers—The Officers serving the Urban District during the year were :—

Medical Officer of Health—D. J. Fraser, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor—

C. R. Cresswell, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (from March, 1955).

Additional Inspector—I. W. Wynne, M.S.I.A. (from August, 1955).

Laboratory Facilities—Provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Conway and Birkenhead, and the Public Analyst, Chester.

Ambulance Services—Provided by the Flintshire County Council. Ambulances are stationed within the Urban Area on a 24-hour service. Sitting-case car transport is available under arrangements made by the County Welfare Officer. The local office is in High Street.

Midwifery and Home Nursing Services are provided by the County Council. Two District Nurse/Midwives reside in the area.

Home Help—This service is provided by the County Council. Persons requiring home help should get in touch with the Home Help Organiser at the County Health Department or with the Medical Officer of Health.

Tuberculosis.

Clinics—"Oaklands," Chester Road, Queensferry; Wednesdays at 9-30 a.m. The Clinic, Grosvenor Road, Wrexham; Mondays at 9-30 a.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The Clinic, Mold. First and third Mondays of the month at 9-30 a.m.

School Clinic.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. Wednesdays at 9 30 a.m.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. The first Friday of the month at 1-30 p.m.

Dental Clinic.

Schoolchildren and expectant mothers are treated at the Clinic, King Street, Mold, by appointment.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Shotton—New Clinic, Central School. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month at 10-30 a.m., and at Wrexham and Holywell.

Infant Welfare.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. Wednesdays at 1-30 p.m.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

The Clinic, King Street, Mold. The second and fourth Mondays of the month at 1-30 p.m. (by appointment).

Health Visiting.

Health Visitor/School Nurses are provided by the County Council. These Nurses visit children in their homes up to school age, and attend at the Infant Welfare Clinic sessions.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

This service is maintained by close liaison between the Medical Officer, Health Visitor/School Nurses, Tuberculosis Health Visitors, Home Helps Organiser, the Welfare De-

partment, the County Health Department and voluntary bodies, including associations caring for the blind and deaf, and those otherwise handicapped.

Vaccination is carried out by general medical practitioners, but it may be done by the Medical Officer on request.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47). (Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention).

No cases were dealt with under this heading during the year, but several cases were visited in this connection.

Hospitals.

Hospital accommodation is provided by the Clwyd and Deeside Hospital Management Committee. Mold Cottage Hospital remains in use and provides services for local residents. Patients are admitted to other hospitals in the district, mainly in Wrexham and Chester. The provision of out-patient facilities at Mold is much appreciated by local residents.

SECTION C.

Water Supply.

Mold water supply is provided by the Mold Undertaking of the Wales Gas Board. The reservoir, situated on the eastern slopes of Moel Fammau, and built towards the end of last century, has insufficient storage space for the needs of the town. With the continuing growth of the town, and the building of more and more houses, the problem of drought in the summer months will become more acute. During drought in the summer months, the supply from Brith Dir Mawr reservoir is supplemented by water obtained from the Birkenhead Corporation water supply. It may be possible in the future to obtain more water from this source, when Birkenhead Corporation will have completed its scheme for extraction of water from the River Dee. During the spring there was a low rainfall, and it was necessary to restrict water supplies at night in August. Restrictions were lifted in November.

Proportion of dwelling houses and also population supplied with water directly to houses—93 %.

Quality of Water Supply—The water is chlorinated as it leaves the reservoir.

Bacteriological examination of water—Water samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratories at Birkenhead and Conway.

Independent samples are regularly taken by the Wales Gas Board.

Of 21 water samples taken, all were class 1 satisfactory. Occasional complaints are made by the public concerning an unpleasant taste in the water. This is caused by slight over-chlorination, and can be removed by letting the water stand for a time or by boiling it. This over-chlorination is perfectly harmless to health, and it makes certain that the water is fit to be used. One complete chemical analysis of the water was made, the report being satisfactory.

Certificate of Analysis :—

“Chemical Analysis. In parts per million of water.

Total solid matter in solution	...	...	140.0
Nitrogen in nitrates	...	...	0.38
Lead, copper, zinc	...	...	—
Chlorine in chlorides	...	...	14.0
Oxygen absorbed from potassium perman- ganate in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	...	...	1.16
Free and saline ammonia	...	...	0.02
Albuminoid ammonia	...	...	0.10
Microscopical deposit	...	...	—
Temporary hardness	...	...	15.0
Permanent hardness	...	...	20.0
pH value	...	...	6.6
pH after calcium carbonate	...	...	7.6
Saturation Index	...	...	1.0

The above chemical analysis is satisfactory.”

Sewage Disposal.

During the year the Sewage Disposal Works were kept in as good order as was possible, considering the fact that the improvements were not quite completed.

No official complaints were made regarding river pollution. Monthly samples of fluid effluent or stream water were sent for analysis. The results were satisfactory.

During the year the improvements to the Sewage Works, costing about £28,000, were almost completed. Improvement in the quality of the effluent was marked. If the works are properly supervised, there should be no danger in the future of river pollution.

Schools.

All schools are regularly visited, and the children have periodical medical examinations.

House Refuse.

Refuse collection is carried out by the Authority's labour.

Cardboard and waste paper from the shops is collected separately each week. From August 15th to the end of the year the best of this material was weighed and sold to a Contractor at New Brighton. The price per ton received was £3, and the total income during this period was £67/4/0. Before this, the cardboard and paper collected from the shops were burnt on the tip.

The weekly collection of house refuse was maintained throughout the year and disposal was by means of controlled tipping. A lot of time was spent in an attempt to find a new site for tipping. No suitable place could be found within the Urban District but eventually the owner of a small disused gravel pit was persuaded to allow his pit to be filled in. This gravel pit is situated within the Holywell Rural District and will provide tipping space for about nine months. It is not an ideal site because of the close proximity of dwelling houses and the increased haul, but it is a big improvement on the old tip. Tipping proceeded on the old Bromfield tip up to August when a start was made on filling the gravel pit.

Efforts are still being made to find suitable tipping space in or out of the Urban area. Co-operation with neighbouring Authorities might be the answer to this problem.

TABLE VII.

Number of visits made in connection with Public Health matters :—

Visits re complaint of defects	...	...	...	435
Re-visits to property under notice	...	...	...	215
Inspections under Building Byelaws	...	...	...	115

Shops and food stores	...	...	...	...	103
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	609
Re refuse collection and disposal	...	...	...	...	26
Re infectious diseases and disinfection	...	...	...	...	23
Issue of Petrol Licences	...	...	...	...	5
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	65
Interviews with Owners or Agents	...	...	...	...	83
Dirty or verminous premises	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	18
Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	106
Dairies	...	...	...	...	3
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	46

TABLE VIII.

Notices Served :—

Informal under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	47
Formal under Housing Acts	...	...	...	1
Abatement under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	15
Total				63

TABLE IX.

Work Done :—

Sanitary Conveniences repaired	...	...	...	34
Drain obstructions removed	...	...	...	215
Dangerous floors repaired	...	...	...	6
Roofs and gutters repaired	...	...	...	125
Plaster repaired	...	...	...	72
Windows repaired	...	...	...	33
Bakehouse walls cleansed	...	...	...	3
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	1
Plumbing repairs completed	...	...	...	120
Dangerous structures made safe	...	...	...	2
Hedges lopped	...	...	...	3
Water supplies improved	...	...	...	2
Doors repaired	...	...	...	20
Yards repaired	...	...	...	1

SECTION D.**Housing.**

During the year 11 privately-built houses were erected, 2

Council houses were completed, and 5 privately-built houses were in course of erection. By the end of the year the total number of Council houses was 602 out of 1,973 inhabited houses in the district. The applications for Council house tenancies amounted to 250. Of this number, over 60 per cent. were families in rooms. Considerable overcrowding exists, especially in the Council-owned houses. Little can be done to abate this until new houses become available. During the year many cases of gross overcrowding were relieved.

Housing Survey.

The survey, made under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, was completed, with difficulty, during the summer. 76 houses were found to be unfit for habitation, and the Council decided to deal with these within a five year period. There are many more houses in poor condition, and these will be dealt with in due course if the owners do not carry out repairs. The Council is entitled to amend any proposals made concerning slum clearance, with the approval of the Minister.

Moveable Dwellings.

One application was received to station a moveable dwelling in the district. The application was refused by the Council.

Housing Act, 1949, and Housing Repair and Rents Act, 1954.

The publicity given to the new Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and the amendments to the Housing Act, 1949, appears to have stimulated public interest in the improvement of housing accommodation. Numerous enquiries have been received, houses and accommodation inspected and advice given.

Four applicants were granted financial assistance towards the improvement of dwellings and one application was granted to help in the cost of converting a building into a dwelling.

Shops Act, 1950.

The Council are the authority for the enforcement of those provisions of the Act relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation.

No complaints have been received but one case was found where arrangements were unsatisfactory and the owners were asked to provide sanitary accommodation.

Rodent Control.

The eradication of rats and mice has been proceeded with during the year, a trained man being employed part-time on the work. The service is subject to a grant under approved conditions and is kept as self-supporting as possible. Council-owned properties are inspected regularly and treatments for the destruction of rats and mice are carried out as and when necessary.

Any business premises or privately owned dwelling houses found to be infested are treated similarly. In the case of business premises the owner or occupier is charged with the cost of the work.

The following number of surveys and treatments have been carried out during the year :—

			Surveys.		Treatments.
Dwelling House	...	...	21	...	15
Business Premises	...	...	25	...	17
Council Properties	...	...	30	...	24
Farms	...	...	6	...	—

Public Conveniences.

There are two sets of Public Conveniences in the district. These are cleansed daily and kept in as satisfactory a condition as is possible. The ladies' section of the Market Hall conveniences is badly designed and poorly ventilated, and it would be difficult to improve it in any way.

Complaints regarding the condition of the public conveniences are occasionally received—mainly from persons who have been visiting the town. Vandalism, including smashing of fixtures and even lighting of fires, is constantly occurring.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A survey of all premises selling food was commenced. One hundred and three inspections and visits were made in respect of this and in a number of cases the premises were found to be unsatisfactory in one way or another.

The majority of premises inspected were found to be without an adequate supply of hot water. Other shortcomings were :—

1. Inadequate protection of open food.
2. Premises in need of re-decorating.
3. Lack of proper covered receptacles for storage of refuse.
4. Absence of notices reminding assistants to wash their hands.

One shop selling food was found to be extremely unsatisfactory. The premises were dirty, in a poor state of repair, badly in need of re-decorating; without suitable washing facilities, and there was evidence of infestation by rats and mice.

In each case the attention of the occupier was drawn to the defects and progress is being made towards bringing the premises up to standard.

Regular inspections are made of stalls on the open market selling food. On one occasion a street trader from Manchester was found to be selling tins of luncheon meat which appeared to have been hammered at the ends to cover unsoundness. The man surrendered the 71 tins involved without argument and was warned that if it happened again the tins would be seized and the Council asked to prosecute.

Glass screens to protect the food were provided by the occupiers of the two stalls selling food in the closed market.

Sampling of Food (by the County Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E. Lewis).

During the year, 32 samples of food were taken. The following articles were sampled :—

Milk	...	...	...	...	12
Dairy products	...	...	...	...	3
Sausages	...	...	...	...	4
Patent medicines	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous groceries	...	...	...	...	3
Alcoholic drinks	...	...	...	...	3
Meat pies	...	...	...	...	2
Bread	...	...	...	...	1
Ice cream	...	...	...	...	2

All samples were found to be genuine. Four samples of imported egg albumen taken at local bakeries were found to be sound.

Ice Cream.

All of the ice cream sold in the district is manufactured in factories situated in other areas and it is pre-packed. The standard of cleanliness of ice cream is satisfactory. Twenty premises are registered for the sale of ice cream.

Milk.

During the year this district was included in a "Specified Area," which means that only those milks which bear a special designation may be sold in the district. This new legislation will assist in the eradication of milk-borne diseases, particularly tuberculosis.

The quality of milk from the point of view of composition is the responsibility of the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority. Most of the milk sold in the district is supplied by two large firms outside the district, and this milk is heat treated or tuberculin tested. There are three producer-retailers in the district. They are supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Samples taken were genuine.

TABLE X.

Number of animals inspected at the Abattoir :—

Sheep	...	...	...	5645
Cattle	...	...	...	604
Calves	...	...	...	260
Pigs	...	...	...	2198
Total				8707

TABLE XI.

Meat. Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle including Cows.			Sheep and Lambs.		Pigs.
Number killed	...	600	4	260	5645	2198
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	2	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	115	1	—	86	35
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	19.1	2.5	—	1.55	1.59
Tuberculosis only :—						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	32	—	2	—	103
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	5.3	—	.76	—	4.73

One case of *cysticercus bovis* was found in a bullock and the carcase was put into cold storage in accordance with Memo 3 (Meat). 2,457 lbs. of meat and 1,451 lbs. of offal were surrendered.

All three slaughterhouses licensed by the Council continued in operation.

Two were unsatisfactory in that they were (1) in need of general repair, (2) inadequately lighted and ventilated, (3) lacking in hot water supply and washing facilities, (4) not provided with proper receptacles for storage of inedible offal. The occupiers were given a licence for six months during which the works were to be carried out.

The biggest drawback in the two slaughterhouses doing most business is lack of space. This makes inspection very difficult particularly when artificial light has to be used.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 and 1954.

Licences were granted to 11 persons permitting them to slaughter animals in a Slaughterhouse or Knacker's Yard in accordance with the provisions of the Acts.

TABLE XII.

**Food unfit for human consumption voluntarily
surrendered.**

	Tins.	Lbs.	Packets.	Jars.
Corned Beef	7			
Evaporated Milk	37			
Meat	174			
Imported Beef		55		
Fruit	153			
Tomatoes	131			
Pineapple Juice	2			
Beans	25			
Soup	15			
Sheep Tongues	1			
Jam				1
Mincemeat	15			
Vegetables	60			
Beetroot		60		
Marzipan			21	
Peanut Butter	1			
Chocolate Spread	1			
Salmon and Lobster				
Paste				1
Macaroni and Cheese				
in Tomato Sauce	10			
Spaghetti in Tomato				
Sauce	1			
Ideal Pickle				1
Fish	17			

Condemned Food.

When food has to be condemned, it is inspected either by the Medical Officer or by the Sanitary Inspector. A certificate is issued to the owner of the food so that he may obtain credit for the goods from the wholesale supplier, and the food is destroyed at the Council tip, usually by burying it deeply in the ground. With food such as potatoes and greenstuffs, pig keepers may be given permission to remove such food for feeding to animals.

Meat which has been condemned is sprayed with green dye and sold to fertiliser manufacturers. Certificates are obtained showing the weight of condemned meat, so that none goes astray on the journey.

Factories.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	M/c. Line No. (2)	No. on Register. (3)	Inspections. (4)	Number of Written Notices. (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted, (6)	M/c. Line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	...	1 ... 7	12 ...	6 verbal ...	Nil	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	...	2 ... 29	41 ...	6 verbal ...	Nil	...
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	...	3 ... 3	6 ...	Nil ...	Nil	...
Total	...	39	59	12	Nil	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars. (1)	M/c. Line No.	Found. (3)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				M/c. Line No. (8)
			Remedied. (4)	Referred To H.M. In- spectors. (5)	By H.M. In- spectors. (6)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	...	3	3	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	...	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	...	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	2	2	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	...	1	1	—	—	—	8
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):—							
(a) Insufficient	...	1	1	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	2	2	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	3	3	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	...	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total	...	12	12	—	—	—	

Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

20

Section 110.				Section 111.				
Nature of Work.	M/c. Line No.	No. of Outworkers in Aug. list required by Sec. 110(1)(c). the Council.	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	M/c. Line No.
Wearing apparel (making, etc.) ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
Cleansing and Washing ...	14	3	—	—	—	—	—	14
Total ...		—	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	

SECTION F.

Prevalence and control of Notifiable Diseases
(excluding Tuberculosis), 1955.

TABLE XIII.

Diseases.	Cases notified.			Deaths notified.
Scarlet Fever	0 (6)	—
Whooping Cough	0 (29)	—
Measles	38 (1)	—
Ac. Pneumonia	1 (2)	5
Meningitis	0 (1)	—
Erysipelas	1 (0)	—
Total	40 (39)	5

Figures in brackets are those for 1954.

TABLE XIV.

Analysis of Notifiable Diseases. The figures shown in column 1 of the previous table are analysed in age groups below.

Number of cases notified as having occurred among persons of the ages immediately below specified.

Disease.	Under 1.	1-2.	3-4.	5-9.	10-14.	15-24.	25 & over	Age Unknown.
Measles	...	4	5	15	14	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

There were no cases of Infantile Paralysis (Poliomyelitis), nor of Diphtheria. There was no outbreak of food poisoning during the year. Measles were prevalent in the second half of the year. Influenza, which caused one death, was prevalent at the beginning of the year. Immunisation against Whooping Cough is now available at the Clinic, and it is to be hoped that this most disabling disease of childhood will be eradicated. Many mothers in the area have already had their children protected.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases notified in 1955.

Age Groups.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Total.
Under 1 year	...	—	...	—	...	—
1-2 years	...	1	...	—	...	1
3-4 „	...	—	...	—	...	—
5-9 „	...	—	...	—	...	—
10-14 „	...	—	...	1	...	1
15-24 „	...	2	...	—	...	2
25 and over	...	3	...	—	...	3
All ages	...	6	...	1	...	7

It will be seen that the notifications of new pulmonary cases numbered 6, and the non-respiratory cases 1, total 7, compared with 8 in 1954. There were no deaths from tuberculosis. Of the new cases, 4 were males, 3 females. Two of the cases were transfers from other districts. All these patients visited the Chest Clinics, and were supervised at home by the Tuberculosis Health Visitors.

Mass X-Ray Survey, 1955-56.

The Mass X-Ray Unit of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board visited the town and was stationed in the Assembly Hall. A record number of persons presented themselves for examination—2,019, compared with 1,899 in 1954. Analysis of the results show that 865 males and 1,154 females were examined. No active cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were found, but two persons required observation for a period. 118 persons had other chest abnormalities, and 11 had disease of the heart and circulatory system. There were 19 cases, all males, of pneumoconiosis—a complaint associated with occupations such as coalmining and quarry-working. 32 persons were found to have abnormality of the bones of the chest. In all, 65 males and 53 females had abnormalities—5.94 per cent. of the number examined.

373 pupils (192 boys and 181 girls) from the Grammar Schools, and 341 (156 boys and 185 girls) from the Secondary School, were examined, and no cases of Tuberculosis were found. 65 members of the staff (21 males, 44 females) were also examined.

I consider that the result of the visit of the Unit was satisfactory. It takes some years to persuade the public that this service is a most valuable one, but it is necessary to advertise the visit with posters, loud-speaker vans, leaflets, and an approach to leaders of public and voluntary services throughout the District.

Many of the male population who work outside the District are regularly x-rayed when the Unit visits the factories. These are not included in the above totals.

